

Basketball tips off

The Baumholder men's and women's community level basketball teams start the USAREUR Northern League regular season with games on their local rival's territory in Kaiserslautern Nov. 30. The women tip off at 6 p.m. and the men at 8 p.m. Both games will be held in the Kleber Fitness Center. On Dec. 2 the Baumholder teams return to the friendly confines of the Hall of Champions for their home opener against Ramstein. The Lady Bears will play at 1 p.m. and the men at 3 p.m. Both teams will be off for two weeks before traveling to Spangdahlem Dec. 15. Call the Sports Office at mil 485-7176 for more information.

Unit action under way

The Baumholder unit level season is now under way with 28 teams participating in four divisions. Games will be played in the Hall of Champions Mondays through Thursdays at 6 p.m. A break will be taken from Dec. 21 to Jan. 6 for the Holiday season. Action resumes Jan. 7. Check with your unit sports representative or the Baumholder Sports Office for an exact schedule.

VFW recruits

Veterans of Foreign Wars Iron Rock Post 2566 conducts a recruiting drive Dec. 1 at the Baumholder Post Exchange. Persons interested in joining this organization are encouraged to stop by to talk to a VWF representative and view their display. All annual members who have not yet renewed their member-

ship for 2002 may do so at this time. For more information call Ron Robinson at civ (02191) 460208.

Last classes of the year

The last Healthy Baby/Healthy Pregnancy class is scheduled for Dec. 14 from 6–9 p.m. and Dec. 15 from 9 a.m.–3 p.m. The last CPR and First Aid class is scheduled from 6–9 p.m. Dec. 4–6 from 6 to 9 p.m.

ACAP services

Army Career and Alumni Program hours are 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. ACAP is also open during lunch to assist clients. Soldiers scheduled to ETS can get information about their options at ACAP. We offer pre-separation briefings, job assistance workshops and job assistance counseling that can help soldiers review their options and assess how the skills developed in the Army can be transferred into civilian life. Soldiers can make appointments for ACAP services at mil 485-6741/6330 or civ (06783) 6-6741/6330.

Preseparation briefing

Soldiers are required to complete a mandatory pre-separation briefing at ACAP no later than 90 days before their separation date. Appointments are available every day at 9 a.m. and require approximately an hour and a half.

Job assistance

ACAP offers job assistance workshops and counseling to help

with the transition from the military to the civilian job market. Workshops are offered by formal instruction every other Wednesday.

The next formal workshop is Nov. 7 and 21 at 8:30 a.m. and ends at 4:30 p.m.

Job assistance can also be accessed through ACAP's new computer system and covers such topics as how to create a resume, find jobs, network, and interview. Clients can cover topics by computer at their own pace.

Call to schedule an appointment, or drop by any afternoon to work with ACAP's computer-based job assistance tools. For more information, contact ACAP at mil 485-6741/6330 or civ (06783) 6-6741/6330.

Spouses can use ACAP

Any family member of a soldier scheduled to ETS is eligible to receive services from the Army Career and Alumni Program.

Orders are not needed and the sponsor does not have to be present for the spouse to attend ACAP classes or to receive assistance from ACAP counselors. Even if a soldier is deployed, spouses can still receive ACAP assistance in Baumholder.

ACAP offers job assistance workshops and professional counselors to help advise during the career transition process. Counselors will help clients think through issues such as a civilian budget, searching the job market, writing a

resume, and preparing for job interviews. Take advantage of ACAP services now to begin planning for the future. Call to schedule an appointment at mil 485-6741/6330 or civ (06783) 6-6741/6330.

See your VA rep

Soldiers contemplating retirement or retired veterans living in the community should attend a Veterans Affairs briefing. Due to overseas scheduling, the next VA briefing is tentatively scheduled for January of 2002. Contact the VA office in the United States at 800-827-1000 for further information. This is not a toll free call from Germany. The VA can also be reached at their web site at www.va.gov.

Foster care

Army Community Foster Care Program is looking for Foster Care Families. Foster parents are very special people. All interested families should contact the Foster Care Coordinator, at mil 485-8188 or civ. 06783-6-8188.

Supplemental income

Family Subsistence Supplemental Allowance is available for qualifying soldiers to supplement their income. Eligibility is based on household size and income. For more information on this new program call Calvin Nero, FSSA Financial Readiness Specialist, at mil 485-8188 or visit their web site at <https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/fssa>

Need a challenge?

The Baumholder Community has many volunteer opportunities in various agencies for persons looking for a challenge. Contact Tracy Grice, installation volunteer coordinator, for a complete listing at mil 485-8188.

Story hour

Army Community Services Outreach Program offers story hour, every second and fourth Thursday of the month. Contact ACS for more information and story times.

Spouses club

The International Spouses Club meets in the ACS lounge from 10 a.m. - noon the first and third Tuesday of each month.

ACS calendar

Nov. 27 - Anger Management and Coping Skills

Nov. 28 - Building A Positive Self Esteem; Banking and Checking Accounts

Nov. 29 - Love and Logic Parenting

Dec. 3 - Successful Parenting

Dec. 4 - Stress Management

Dec. 5 - Banking and Checking Accounts; Conflict Resolution

Dec. 6 - Love and Logic Parenting

Dec. 10 - Assertiveness Training

Dec. 11 - Anger Management

Dec. 12 - Principles of Personal Finance; Positive Self Esteem

Dec. 13 - Blended Families

For information about classes listed or services provided call mil 485-8188 or civ (06783) 6-8188.

Education notes

Last chance for GED

The last day for General Educational Development testing during this calendar year is Nov. 28. The new GED 2002 test series begins Jan. 2, 2002. Call Julie Langford at mil 485-6487 for more information.

DANTES testing

The Baumholder Army Education Center has limited DANTES and Military Testing sessions available. Persons interested may call to schedule any desired testing. Walk-in testing is currently not available. For more information or to schedule testing call Bill Badger at mil 485-6487.

Follow the leader

Ready to work on your college degree and not sure which way to go? Follow the leaders in distance education, City Colleges of Chicago-Europe. They offer 230 courses in a wide variety of concen-

trations, including all basic general requirements. Courses are offered in video or audio cassette, Email, the internet, CD-ROM or computer-based instruction, depending on the course selected. Field Representatives located at the education center will help you enroll, and guide and mentor you throughout your course work. Courses are portable—take them with you when you deploy or PCS. CCC-E = 30 years of experience in education for the military in Europe. Visit our homepage at: www.ccc-e.org.

Montgomery GI Bill

Public Law 107-14 recently approved by the Congress addresses the use of the Top-Up provision for those who use the Montgomery GI Bill. Changes presented by this law will affect the Montgomery GI Bill entitlement so soldiers should talk to an education counselor if they have used the Top-Up provision

already. Call the education center at mil 485-6487 for more information.

Learning hours

The Army Learning Center, Building 8108 is now open Mondays through Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 9:45 p.m. Friday hours remain 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The center is closed daily from 1–2 p.m. for lunch. Visit the Learning Center for CLEP, GED, SAT, ACT, AFCT, and MOS study material. You will also find an on-line bookshelf with the latest Army regulations and pamphlets. Call Laurie Williams at mil 485-6484 for more information.

University rep visit

The University of Oklahoma Field Representative visits the Baumholder Army Education Center monthly. People wishing to discuss the University of Oklahoma's graduate degree programs are invited to call the representative at Ramstein mil 480-6807.

Tax center opens in February

The tax season is right around the corner. The dreaded tax day may not be until April 15, but why wait? The Baumholder Tax Center is scheduled to open its doors for business on Feb. 1, 2002 and remain open until June 30, 2002. The BTAC will be located at Building 8670, next to the Community Bank. The BTAC offers tax assistance preparation for federal and state income taxes, as well as electronic filing. The advantage of electronic filing is that it is more accurate than paper returns and you get your refund faster, usually within four weeks.

The BTAC offers free tax service to all service members, their

family members and eligible Department of Defense and Department of the Army civilians. IRS-trained personnel will prepare both federal and state tax returns. Why pay a commercial preparer when the BTAC is free? The BTAC often saves customers more than \$200 in tax preparation fees.

The BTAC is scheduled to operate from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Fridays. Customers may schedule an appointment starting Feb. 1, 2002. Simple tax returns such as 1040EZs can be prepared on a walk-in basis.

Customers must bring their W-

2s, social security cards, a copy of their 2000 tax return and all other tax documents such as the 1098 and 1099 tax forms. Upon arrival at the BTAC, customers will be asked to complete a simple questionnaire. This questionnaire enables the BTAC's personnel to quickly expedite a customer's tax return. The BTAC wants everyone's business and looks forward to serving the community.

Persons who have any questions concerning the BTAC or are interested in volunteering and receiving free IRS tax training may call the legal assistance office at mil 485-6506.

Assault earns soldier discharge

The following are the results of recent trials conducted on Baumholder and Grafenwoehr.

PFC Thomas L. Gilbert, Charlie Company, 1-6 Infantry Battalion, was tried by a Special Court-Martial Empowered to Adjudge a Bad-Conduct Discharge, at Baumholder, Germany on Oct. 3. Gilbert was found guilty on one count of aggravated assault with a dangerous weapon likely to produce grievance bodily harm and one count of assault consummated by battery. He received a sentence of reduction to E-1, confinement for four months and a bad-conduct discharge. Gilbert is currently serving his sentence in the Mannheim Confinement Facility.

Spec. Richard D. Hassemer, Alpha Company, 2-6 Infantry Battalion, was tried by Summary Court-Martial, at the Grafenwoehr Training Area Oct. 14. Hassemer was found guilty on one count of wrongful use of a controlled substance (benzodiazepine). He received a sentence of reduction to E-1, forfeiture of two-thirds pay for one month and confinement for 20 days. Hassemer served his sentence in

the Mannheim Confinement Facility.

Pvt. 1 Nicholas A. Bogart, Charlie Company, 2-6 Infantry Battalion, was tried by Summary Court-Martial, at the Grafenwoehr Training Area on Oct. 14. Bogart was found guilty on two counts of wrongful use of controlled substances (ecstasy and marijuana). He received a sentence of forfeiture of two thirds pay for one month and confinement for 25 days. Bogart served his sentence in the Mannheim Confinement Facility.

Staff Sgt. Frank C. Jimenez, Headquarters, Headquarters Service Battery, 1-94 Field Artillery, was tried by General Court-Martial, at Baumholder on Oct. 15. Jimenez was found guilty on three counts of wrongful possession of controlled substances with intent to distribute (anabolic steroids and ionimin forte) and guilty on one count of wrongful use of a controlled substance (anabolic steroids). He received a sentence of reduction to E-1, confinement for four months, and a bad-conduct discharge. Jimenez is currently serving his sentence in

the Mannheim Confinement Facility.

Spec. Ryan N. Berner, Charlie Company, 2-6 Infantry, was tried by a Summary Court-Martial at Baumholder Nov. 5 and was found guilty on two counts of wrongful use of a controlled substance (methamphetamines and amphetamines). He received a sentence of reduction to E1, forfeiture of \$695, and confinement for 30 days. Berner is serving his sentence in the Mannheim Confinement Facility.

PFC Matthew J. Garcia, HHC, 2-6 IN, was tried by Summary Court-Martial, at Baumholder on Nov. 8. Garcia was found guilty on one count of violation of a lawful general regulation (wrongfully operating a privately owned vehicle without a license), one count of driving while intoxicated and one count of wrongful use of a controlled substance (benzodiazepine). He received a sentence of reduction to E1, forfeiture of \$695 and confinement for 20 days.

Garcia is serving his sentence in the Mannheim Confinement Facility.

NIKE Swoosh promotes leadership

Baumholder youth from the NIKE Swoosh Club were out in force during Halloween, ensuring the night was safe and secure for all the trick-or-treaters. Youth patrolled the community passing out candy and chemical lights to youth and maintained a watchful eye to make sure the evening program occurred without incident.

The NIKE Swoosh Club is a teen leadership club that promotes physical fitness, interests in sports and athletic related careers. Members meet to learn about sports and fitness related issues.

Club members are also trained to officiate, keep score and conduct sports related programs. Each of the Baumholder Youth centers have a NIKE Swoosh Club that meets twice a month. Swoosh club members are youth 13 years and older who are willing to volunteer at least 25 hours in club activities such as officiating, score keeping or other athletic support roles.

Members must actively participate in Swoosh club meetings, committees and community events and be a member of the Youth Services program.

NIKE launched PLAY, Participate in the Lives of America's Youth, in 1994 to guarantee youth the opportunity to participate in sports and fitness activities. A component of the NIKE PLAY program the NIKE Swoosh is a Boys and Girls Club of America Club program developed to meet the changing interests of teens.

The program is co-chaired by Michael Jordan and Jackie Joyner-Kersey.

To participate in the NIKE Swoosh program contact your local youth center or call mil 485-7276.



Photo by Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

Jay Johnson displays a fist full of trophies that he came home with recently from the Wiesbaden invitational wrestling trophy.

Wrestler takes team trophy on his own

When Jay Johnson traveled to Wiesbaden to compete in the recent Wiesbaden Invitational Wrestling Competition, he came home with a basket of trophies, earning first place in Freestyle and in Greco-Roman in the 213 pound weight class. As the only wrestler from Baumholder, he also earned a runner up team trophy and accrued enough individual points to earn yet another trophy.

The Tecumseh, Okla. native began wrestling for the Army Nov. 11 of last year. At that time he took third in Freestyle in the 213 pound category during the Baumholder Invitational. His deployment to Kosovo last year kept him off the wrestling mat for a while, limiting his competition to just one tournament in 2000.

This year he stepped back into competition and took second place in Greco-Roman in the heavyweight category during the Baumholder invitational Sept. 29.

He then went on to claim his recent victories at the Wiesbaden Invitational.

Johnson has been wrestling for seven years. Five of those years were in eighth grade through his senior year in high school, all in collegiate style. During his senior year he took sixth at the high school regionals and also claimed "Little All City Wrestler of 1995" at 215 pounds.

Johnson left for basic training on May 11, 1999 and was later assigned to Charlie Company, 40th Engineer Battalion. In December, he leaves for Fort Leonardwood, MO.

2nd Brigade Combat Team readies for Hohenfels



Photo by Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava
1st Lt. Ken Darnall, left and Capt. Joe Hodgson, 2-501 Aviation Battalion, prepare for their role in supporting the 2nd Brigade Combat Team during its command post exercise in preparation for the team's rotation to Hohenfels.

The 2nd Brigade Combat Team conducted a command post exercise Nov. 14 through 19 in preparation for the unit's rotation to Hohenfels, Germany in January. The exercise focused on honing the communication skills and the military decision making process and command post skills of the various staffs.

"The CPX is a brigade and battalion task force-level staff exercise in which units establish command posts throughout Baumholder at various locations. This process segues into a communications exercise to verify the integrity of the communications network, and finally leads into mission rehearsals and simulated combat operations," said Maj. Darren Holbruck, 2nd Brigade adjutant.

"While these combat operations are simulated using computer-generated results, it is a very real combat-like experience for the soldiers in the command posts," he said. Following each mission an after action review is conducted by the various observer and controllers at the BCT and TF leadership, while the staffs continue to plan for the next mission.

Units that participated include 1-35 Armor; 1-6 Infantry; 2-6 Infantry; G Troop, 1st Cavalry; Headquarters, Headquarters Company 2nd Brigade; 4-27 Field Artillery; 47th Forward Support Battalion; Bravo Company, 501 Military intelligence; 2nd Platoon, 501 Military Police Company; 2-501 Aviation; 40th Engineers; 1-4 Air Defense Artillery; 141 Signal Battalion and an Air Force contingent. In addition to these units, various outside agencies participated to ensure the training received was as realistic as possible.

"We brought in units that comprise the BCT for a four-day command post exercise," said Col John D Johnson, commander, 2nd Brigade Combat Team.

"At the end of these four days we had our command post standard operating procedures in place and validated for the 2nd Brigade Combat Team. We will use these SOP's when we plan and fight tomorrow's battles," He said.

"It has been a tremendous learning experience for all participating units and will pay huge dividends when we deploy to the Combined Maneuver Training Center.

"I am proud of all the hard work and great efforts that our soldier and leaders have put into making this exercise a success. The 2nd Brigade Combat Team is much better trained today as a result of their efforts. Strike Hard!" said Johnson.